

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 087678

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV TWALSH/SPOLANSKY:GK

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OES/SCI/SA-DVOGT

NASA-AEANDERSON(SUBS)

C-WSHINN

NSC- DR. ELLIOTT

S/PRS-AMB. ANDERSON

S/S- JMEALUM

NSC:MR. GATES

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O 162312Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: UR, PFOR, TSPA

SUBJECT: SPACE AGREEMENT; HIGH-LEVEL EXCHANGE TO MARK ASTP
FLIGHT

REF: MOSCOW 5220

1. DECISION HAS BEEN MADE HERE TO PROPOSE TO SOVIETS AN
EXCHANGE OF HIGH-LEVEL DELEGATIONS TO WITNESS EACH OTHER'S
LAUNCHES, EITHER AT LAUNCH SITE OR CONTROL CENTER, WHICH
WOULD NOT RPT NOT, HOWEVER, BE CONTINGENT ON SOVIET
WILLINGNESS TO INCLUDE MEDIA POOL REPRESENTATIVES IN THE
GROUPS.

2. THE AMBASSADOR IS AUTHORIZED TO RAISE PROPOSAL WITH
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APPROPRIATE MFA OFFICIALS. WE THINK IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE
FOR AMBASSADOR TO PRESS FOR VISITS TO LAUNCH SITES, WITH
CONTROL CENTERS AS A FALLBACK POSITION. WE ENVISION
EXCHANGE AT CABINET LEVEL, BUT BELOW VICE PRESIDENT, AND

WOULD PROBABLY INCLUDE ONE OR MORE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.
FINAL COMPOSITION AND LEVEL OF DELEGATIONS CANNOT BE
ADDRESSED FURTHER HERE UNTIL YOU OBTAIN SOVIET
ACCEPTANCE OF IDEA IN PRINCIPLE.

3. SHOULD SOVIETS AGREE IN PRINCIPLE TO IDEA OF EXCHANGE
OF HIGH-LEVEL DELEGATIONS, WE WOULD THEN PLAN TO RAISE WITH

THEM QUESTION OF APPROPRIATE MEDIA POOL ACCOMPANIMENT FOR
DELEGATIONS. WE WOULD PREFER, HOWEVER- TO ADDRESS THIS
ISSUE IN CONTEXT OF FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WHICH WOULD FOCUS
ON SPECIFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR EXCHANGE. KISSINGER

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